

# RENTON CITY COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting

April 27, 1998 Council Chambers  
Monday, 7:30 p.m. Municipal Building

### MINUTES

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Pro tem Bob Edwards led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and called the meeting of the Renton City Council to order.

#### **ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL MEMBERS**

KING PARKER, Council President Pro tem; RANDY CORMAN; TIMOTHY SCHLITZER; DAN CLAWSON; KATHY KEOLKER-WHEELER; TONI NELSON.

#### **CITY STAFF IN ATTENDANCE**

JAY COVINGTON, Chief Administrative Officer; LAWRENCE J. WARREN, City Attorney; MARILYN PETERSEN, City Clerk; MARK PYWELL, Senior Planner; BATTALION CHIEF KRIS HANSON, Fire Department; ABDOL GAFOR, Civil Engineer; TOM BOYNS, Property Services Supervisor; STEPHEN ROLLE, Civil Engineer; DEPUTY CHIEF DON PERSSON, Police Department.

#### **PRESS**

Denis Law, *Renton Reporter*  
Elizabeth Parker, *Renton Reporter*  
Clare Booth, *South County Journal*

#### **APPROVAL OF COUNCIL MINUTES**

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL APPROVE THE MINUTES OF APRIL 20, 1998, AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

#### **PROCLAMATION** "Arson Awareness Week," May 3-9, 1998

A proclamation by Mayor Tanner was read declaring the week of May 3 to 9, 1998, to be "Arson Awareness Week" in the City of Renton, and encouraging all citizens to show their appreciation for the efforts and sacrifices made by public servants who protect Renton families and property from loss due to the violent and senseless crime of arson, and who diligently work to deter further incidents of intentionally set fires.

Battalion Chief Kris Hanson accepted the proclamation on behalf of the Fire Department, noting that arson is the leading cause of property loss due to fire. Nationwide, arson fires kill over 700 people annually.

#### **PUBLIC HEARINGS** Vacation Aberdeen Ave NE/NE 33rd St (Tharp/Clise, VAC-98-002)

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Pro tem Edwards opened the public hearing to consider the petition to vacate a portion of Aberdeen Ave. NE from NE 33rd St. to NE 36th St., and a portion of NE 33rd St. from Aberdeen Ave. NE, 450 feet easterly (Tharp/Clise, VAC-98-002).

Tom Boyns, Property Services Supervisor, explained that the petitioners have requested the vacation of the above-described undeveloped right-of-way in exchange for right-of-way to be dedicated within the proposed Stafford Crest

plat. Renton's City Code allows property (or property rights) to be accepted in lieu of part or all of the compensation that would have been due from a City-vacated right-of-way. The usual appraisal and compensation will be waived since the vacated right-of-way will be offset by the dedicated right-of-way.

Continuing, Mr. Boyns reported that neighbors owning property to the east of the proposed vacation have expressed concern about retaining access to their lots. In response, the plat was reconfigured to provide a connecting right-of-way between the new roads in the plat and NE 33rd Street.

Mr. Boyns noted staff and the Board of Public Works recommend that the vacation be approved, subject to the following conditions:

1. That the ordinance vacating the City rights be held until the proposed plat of Stafford Crest receives final approval. The ordinance and the plat are to be recorded concurrently; and
2. That the plat include a dedication of right-of-way sixty feet in width connecting the remaining portion of NE 33rd Street to the newly dedicated right-of-way within the plat in order to assure access for property owners who front NE 33rd Street.

Audience comment was invited. There being none, it was MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED.

Responding to Councilman Corman, Mr. Boyns assured him that the connection to NE 33rd Street will be addressed when the Hearing Examiner considers the plat. Mr. Corman emphasized that this provision must be made clear to prevent any confusion over the development of this access in the future.

MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL APPROVE THE VACATION PETITION AS REQUESTED, SUBJECT TO THE CONDITIONS RECOMMENDED BY STAFF AND THE BOARD OF PUBLIC WORKS. CARRIED.

#### Transportation Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Ordinance Changes

This being the date set and proper notices having been posted and published in accordance with local and State laws, Mayor Pro tem Edwards opened the public hearing to consider the proposed revisions to Renton's Commute Trip Reduction Ordinance.

Steve Rolle, Civil Engineer, explained that the proposed changes were prompted by last year's revisions to the State's Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) law. The State's CTR program, designed to reduce single occupant vehicle commuting, targets larger employers in urban areas.

Mr. Rolle said the first change will adjust the timeline for CTR goal attainment, because the original goals were deemed too ambitious. The new timeline seeks a 35% reduction in SOV traffic by 2005 -- six years later than the original 1999 goal. Other revisions clarify the intent of existing rules and create more uniformity in the application of rules among jurisdictions. They also clarify what does or does not constitute a violation of the regulations, and spell out procedures for goal modifications, program credits, and exemptions.

Concluding, Mr. Rolle said staff recommends approval of the proposed changes to achieve consistency with the revised State law and CTR Task Force guidelines.

Audience comment was invited. There being none, it was MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING. CARRIED. (See page 152 for ordinance.)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT**

Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington reviewed a written administrative report summarizing the City's recent progress towards goals and work programs adopted as part of its business plan for 1998 and beyond. Items noted included:

- \* The National Marine Fisheries Service has authorized the Washington State Department of Fisheries to issue the Hydraulic Project Approval permit needed for the Cedar River Flood Hazard Reduction project.
- \* Revisions were completed on the southbound Sunset Blvd. NE lanes approaching Maple Valley Highway to allow single occupancy vehicle use of both left-turn lanes from Sunset to the highway.
- \* The recent Washington State Supreme Court decision requiring US West to credit its customers for overcharges will reduce Renton's utility tax revenue by approximately \$75,000.

## **AUDIENCE COMMENT**

Citizen Comment Evans -  
Gene Coulon Hydroplane  
Races

Ralph Evans, 3306 NE 11th Pl., Renton, 98056, commended the City for last weekend's limited hydroplane race held at Gene Coulon Memorial Beach Park. He hoped this will become an annual event.

Citizen Comment Richter -  
Renton High School  
Students' Community  
Interest

Marjorie Richter, 300 Meadow Ave. N., Renton, 98055, concurred that last weekend's hydroplane races were very well run. On another subject, she reported that numerous students at Renton High School are working to change the image of their school. Towards that end, they have volunteered to clean up Second Avenue as part of the "Put a Shine on Downtown Renton" event on May 8th and 9th. They have also expressed interest in participating in other community activities. Mrs. Richter said these students deserve recognition for helping to change the image of Renton.

Citizen Comment Reynolds  
- Gene Coulon Hydroplane  
Races & Boat Launch  
Unavailability

Wayne Reynolds, 55 Logan Ave. S., Renton, 98055, reported that many people were angry last weekend when they learned they could not launch their boats at Gene Coulon because of the hydroplane races. Mr. Reynolds added that the situation was further worsened by the fact that every other public boat launch north to Bellevue and west to Seattle was full.

Councilman Parker suggested that one way to minimize future inconveniences would be for the City to specifically notify purchasers of launch permits when the Gene Coulon boat launch will be closed for special events.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

Items on the consent agenda are adopted by one motion

which follows the listing.

City Clerk Quarterly  
Contract List, 1/01/98-  
3/31/98

City Clerk submitted Quarterly Contract List for the period of January 1 to March 31, 1998; 39 agreements totalling \$9,329,074.96. Information.

CAG 98-028, Cedar River  
Utility Xing (Schedule E),  
Terra Dynamics

City Clerk reports bid opening on 4/13/98 for CAG-98-028, Cedar River Utility Crossing, Schedule E; 11 bids; project estimate \$176,784.51; and submitted staff recommendation to award the contract to the low bidder, Terra Dynamics, Inc., in the total amount of \$188,285.90 (Renton's cost share is \$94,142.95). Council concur.

Court Case 98-008,  
Scooco Construction v  
Renton

Court Case filed in King County Superior Court by Scooco Construction, Inc., alleging breach of contract and seeking an unspecified monetary judgment in connection with Scooco's work as general contractor for the City's Park Ave. N. improvements project. Refer to City Attorney and Insurance Services.

Plat Rieker Short Plat  
(SHP-97-083), ROW  
Dedication on NE 24th &  
Aberdeen

Development Services Division recommended acceptance of a dedication of right-of-way on the southwest corner of NE 24th St. and Aberdeen Ave. NE to fulfill a requirement of the Rieker Short Plat (SHP-97-083). Council concur.

CAG 98-, Cedar River  
Utility Xing (Schedule E),  
King County

Water Utility Division recommended approval of a utilities cooperation agreement accepting \$114,142.95 from King County for Phase III construction of the Cedar River Utility Crossing project, Schedule E (spawning channel and wetland restoration). Renton's cost share is also \$114,142.95. Council concur. (See page 152 for resolution.)

MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER,  
COUNCIL APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS PRESENTED.  
CARRIED.

**OLD BUSINESS**  
**Committee of the Whole**  
EDNSP Joint Marketing  
Campaign for Renton

Council President Pro tem Parker presented a report recommending that the City partner with other key community stakeholders to develop an intensive three-year Renton Community Marketing Campaign. This program will create an aggressive, comprehensive marketing plan to recruit quality companies to Renton in a very competitive regional marketplace. This will allow the City to diversify its employment base, increase tax revenues that can be used to provide increased City services, ensure a healthy and vital local economy, and improve the image of Renton in the community and the region. The Committee further recommended that Council appropriate \$50,000 from unallocated hotel/motel tax revenues to be combined with funds already budgeted for a business recruitment marketing campaign. It is anticipated that future contributions of \$100,000 annually will be budgeted from the hotel/motel fund as part of the 1999-2000 budget. MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-

**WHEELER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.**

Development Services City  
Code Title IV  
Reformatting

Council President Pro tem Parker presented a report concurring with the staff recommendation to approve the reorganized City Code Title IV, Development Regulations, and associated amendments to other titles. The Committee further recommended that the ordinance regarding this matter be presented for first reading on May 4, 1998. **MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.**

**Finance Committee**  
Finance Vouchers

Finance Committee Chair Parker presented a report recommending approval of Claims Vouchers #158493 - 158944; two wire transfers in the total amount of \$2,130,833.04; approval of Payroll Vouchers #159252 - 159505; and 498 direct deposits in the total amount of \$1,249,287.08. **MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.**

**Utilities Committee**  
Public Works Springbrook  
Creek Easement from  
Springbrook, LLC for  
Future Habitat Restoration

Utilities Committee Chair Clawson presented a report recommending concurrence in the Planning/Building/Public Works Department's recommendation that Council accept the dedication of an approximately 2.1 acre easement along Springbrook Creek between SR-167 and the S. 55th Street culvert crossing. No expenditure is required to secure the easement. **MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.**

Personnel Vacant Position  
Recruitments

Responding to Councilmember Keolker-Wheeler, Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington said the City has contracted with Waldron & Associates to provide recruitment services for the vacant Community Services Administrator and the Human Resources and Risk Management Administrator positions. The consultant is recruiting both in-house and externally, with the selection for both positions expected to take place in late May or early June. First round interviews for the Recreation Director position (also advertised internally and externally) will be held this week.

Mrs. Keolker-Wheeler requested a written follow-up on this subject, to include information on the costs associated with contracting for these recruitment services.

**Community Services Committee**  
Council King County  
Livable Communities Fair  
Sponsorship Request

Community Services Committee Chair Nelson presented a report regarding King County's Livable Communities Conference and Fair, planned for November 7, 1998 at Seattle Center. The purpose of the fair is to highlight constituent and consumer choices, neighborhood action, and advocacy organizations. The City has been invited to be a sponsor of this event. Sponsorship requires a donation of \$1,500 to \$3,000 in cash, plus staffing of a booth at the event. The Committee recommended that the City decline the invitation to be a sponsor of this event, after

consideration of the costs and staff time involved to participate in the fair. MOVED BY NELSON, SECONDED BY CLAWSON, COUNCIL CONCUR IN THE COMMITTEE REPORT. CARRIED.

## **ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

The following resolution was presented for reading and adoption:

### **Resolution #3324**

CAG 98-, Cedar River Utility Xing (Schedule E), King County

A resolution was read authorizing the Mayor and City Clerk to enter into a utilities cooperation agreement with King County for Phase III construction of the Cedar River Utility Crossing project, Schedule E (spawning channel and wetland restoration). MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY PARKER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE RESOLUTION AS PRESENTED. CARRIED.

The following ordinances were presented for first reading and referred to the Council meeting of 5/04/98 for second and final reading:

Transportation Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Ordinance Changes

An ordinance was read amending Chapter 13, Commute Trip Reduction, of Title X (Traffic), of City Code by incorporating recent legislative and administrative change to the State's commute trip reduction program. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 5/04/98. CARRIED.

Planning Downtown (City Center) Sign Code

An ordinance was read amending Chapter 20, Sign Code, and deleting subsection 4-31-14.A.1 of Chapter 31, Zoning Code, of Title IV (Building Regulations) of City Code relating to regulation of signs in the City Center area as defined, adding and amending definitions, and making minor amendments to the Sign Code. MOVED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, SECONDED BY SCHLITZER, COUNCIL REFER THE ORDINANCE FOR SECOND AND FINAL READING ON 5/04/98. CARRIED.

The following ordinances were presented for second reading and adoption:

### **Ordinance #4717**

Legal Telecommunications Ordinance

An ordinance was read amending Title V (Finance and Business Regulations) of City Code by adding Chapter 18, entitled "Telecommunications Licenses and Franchises." MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

### **Ordinance #4718**

Legal Telecommunications Fees

An ordinance was read amending Section 5-1-1 of Chapter 1, Fee Schedule, of Title V (Business and Finance Regulations) of City Code by adding a subsection for telecommunications fees. MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADOPT THE ORDINANCE AS PRESENTED. ROLL CALL: ALL AYES. MOTION CARRIED.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Legal Sandwich-Board  
Advertising Signs

Councilman Schlitzer relayed concerns relating to sandwich-board advertising signs; specifically, that certain businesses seem to have been targeted for enforcement regarding these while other businesses are not bothered. He felt this issue warranted discussion from an enforcement standpoint, in addition to the overall question of whether or not this type of signage should be allowed. **MOVED BY SCHLITZER, SECONDED BY KEOLKER-WHEELER, COUNCIL REFER THIS MATTER TO THE PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE. CARRIED.**

Executive Move to New  
City Hall over July Fourth  
Weekend

Responding to Councilman Schlitzer, Chief Administrative Officer Jay Covington confirmed that many of the departments in City Hall are scheduled to move to the new municipal building over the Fourth of July weekend. Not all employees will be required to be present, since the City is contracting with a moving company to do a great deal of the work involved. Mr. Covington explained the need to have sufficient time in which to install the electronic gear in the Council Chambers, and this weekend appeared to be the best option.

Council Public Restrooms  
in the Downtown

Councilman Clawson stated that the need for public restrooms in the downtown is urgent, and cannot wait for the development of the permanent transit center or the piazza. He explained this is primarily a sanitation problem. **MOVED BY CLAWSON, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL REFER THE QUESTION OF WHETHER THE CITY CAN PROVIDE TEMPORARY RESTROOMS IN THE DOWNTOWN (IN THE GENERAL AREA OF THE TRANSIT CENTER) TO THE COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE. CARRIED.**

Mayor Pro tem Edwards also asked that the Administration look into the problem of litter in this same area. He suggested this could be alleviated by placing more trash bins near the transit center.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOVED BY PARKER, SECONDED BY NELSON, COUNCIL ADJOURN. CARRIED. Time: 8:38 p.m.**

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MARILYN J. PETERSEN, CMC, City Clerk